

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested. Claims 1, 5, 9, 15 and 16 have been amended and claim 13 has been canceled. Claims 1-16 are currently pending.

Rejections based on 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1-2, 7-8, 9-12, and 14-16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102 as being anticipated by US Patent No. 5,586,237 to Ronald M. Baecker (the "Baecker reference"). Amended claim 1 is drawn to a method for use on a computer having a graphical operating environment, comprising providing a collection of items within a container that has a background appearance, displaying a graphical preview of at least one item on the outer appearance of the container and locating the graphical preview on the outer appearance in a desired location, thereby enabling a computer user to more easily identify the contents of the container without opening the container.

Amended claim 1 includes a method for use on a computer that displays a graphical preview of at least one item on the outer appearance of a container. The Baecker reference does not teach a method for use on a computer that displays a graphical preview of an item on the outer appearance of the container. The Baecker reference teaches a method of displaying a sequence of static icon depictions (frames) sequentially for a short period of time (typically, one-half second)¹. The first two frames of the sequence of static icon depictions (frames) depict the outer appearance of a container² and the remaining frames depict the inner appearance of the container on which reduced visual versions of objects contained in the container are displayed³.

¹ Baecker reference, Column 6, Lines 30-40

² Baecker reference, FIG.6 601-602

³ Baecker reference, FIG.6, 603-608

As the Baecker reference does not teach a method of displaying a graphical preview of an item on the outer appearance of a container, Applicants request withdrawal of the rejection of claim 1.

Amended claim 1 also includes the method for use on a computer having a graphical operating environment that locates a graphical preview on the outer appearance in a desired location. The Baecker reference neither teaches nor suggests a method for use on a computer that locates a graphical preview on the outer appearance in a desired location. The Baecker reference teaches (1) a sequence of computer-readable instructions which, when executed by a computer having a cursor control device, cause the computer to perform the steps of moving a reduced visual version of an object based on the content of the object to any desired location on the display screen in response to user manipulation of the cursor control device⁴ and (2) a method of placing each icon representing an object contained in a folder at the corresponding location in an animated icon frame of the folder⁵. As the Baecker reference neither teaches nor suggests a method of locating a graphical preview on the outer appearance in a desired location, Applicants request withdrawal of the rejection of claim 1. As claims 2, 7 and 8 depend either directly or indirectly on claim 1, Applicants request withdrawal of the rejections to these claims as well.

Amended claim 9 is drawn to a method in a computer system for displaying a collection of content items within a container, comprising displaying a background appearance for the collection of items, determining if any of the collection of items can be graphically represented, displaying on the background appearance a graphical preview of at least one of said items that can be graphically represented and displaying a textual message in addition to the background appearance and the graphical preview.

⁴ Baecker reference, Column 9, Lines 57-66

⁵ Baecker reference, Column 6, Lines 60-63

Amended claim 9 includes a method that displays a textual message in addition to a background appearance and a graphical preview. The Baecker reference neither teaches nor suggests a method that displays a textual message in addition to a background appearance and a graphical preview. The Baecker reference teaches a method in a computer system for displaying a collection of scaled-down replicas representing contents of various objects within a container on an icon frame representing the container⁶. As the Baecker reference neither teaches nor suggests a method of displaying a textual message in addition to a background appearance and a graphical preview, Applicants request withdrawal of the rejection of claim 9. As claims 10-12 and 14 depend either directly or indirectly on claim 9, Applicants request withdrawal of the rejections to these claims as well.

Amended claim 15 is drawn to a computer system for displaying a collection of items on a display using a graphical operating environment, comprising an item collection manager for providing a collection of items within a container that has a background appearance and a container display provider for displaying a graphical preview of at least one item on the outer appearance of the container and for displaying a textual message in addition to the background appearance and the graphical preview, thereby enabling a computer user to more easily identify the contents of the container without opening the container.

Amended claim 15 includes a container display provider for displaying a graphical preview of at least one item on the outer appearance of a container. The Baecker reference does not teach a container display provider that displays a graphical preview of an item on the outer appearance of a container. The Baecker reference teaches a method of displaying a sequence of static icon depictions (frames) sequentially for a short period of time (typically, one-half second). The first two frames of the sequence of static icon depictions (frames) depict the outer

⁶ Baecker reference, Column 6, Lines 41-67 and Column 7, Lines 1-29

appearance of a container⁷ and the remaining frames depict the inner appearance of the container on which reduced visual versions of objects contained in the container are displayed⁸. As the Baecker reference does not teach a method of displaying a graphical preview of an item on the outer appearance of a container, Applicants request withdrawal of the rejection of claim 1.

Amended claim 15 also includes a container display provider that displays a textual message in addition to a background appearance and a graphical preview. The Baecker reference neither teaches nor suggests a method that displays a textual message in addition to a background appearance and a graphical preview. The Baecker reference teaches a method in a computer system for displaying a collection of scaled-down replicas representing contents of various objects within a container on an icon frame representing the container⁹. As the Baecker reference neither teaches nor suggests a method of displaying a textual message in addition to a background appearance and a graphical preview, Applicants request withdrawal of the rejection of claim 15.

Amended claim 16 is drawn to a computer system for displaying a collection of items on a display using a graphical operating environment, comprising a background appearance rendering component for the collection of items and a graphical preview rendering component for determining if any of the collection of items can be graphically represented, for rendering a graphical preview, on the background appearance, of at least one of any of the collection items that can be graphically represented and for displaying a textual message in addition to the background appearance and the graphical preview.

Amended claim 16 includes a graphical preview rendering component that displays a textual message in addition to a background appearance and a graphical preview. The Baecker

⁷ Baecker reference, FIG.6 601-602

⁸ Baecker reference, FIG.6 603-608

⁹ Baecker reference, Column 6, Lines 41-67 and Column 7, Lines 1-29

reference neither teaches nor suggests a method that displays a textual message in addition to a background appearance and a graphical preview. The Baecker reference teaches a method in a computer system for displaying a collection of scaled-down replicas representing contents of various objects within a container on an icon frame representing the container¹⁰. As the Baecker reference neither teaches nor suggests a method of displaying a textual message in addition to a background appearance and a graphical preview, Applicants request withdrawal of the rejection of claim 16.

Rejections based on 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 3 through 6 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over the Baecker reference and MacWorld Mac-OS 8.5 Bible by Lon Poole (the "Poole reference"). As stated above, the Baecker reference neither teaches nor suggests a method for use on a computer that locates a graphical preview on the outer appearance of a container in a desired location. As amended claim 1 includes the method for use on a computer having a graphical operating environment that locates a graphical preview on the outer appearance of a container in a desired location, Applicants submit that amended claim 1 is allowable over the prior art. As claims 3-6 now directly or indirectly depend on amended claim 1, Applicants request withdrawal of the rejections of claims 3 through 6, for claims that directly or indirectly depend on another novel and non-obvious claim are also novel and non-obvious.

Conclusion

For the reasons stated above, claims 1-16 are in condition for allowance. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the pending rejections and allowance of claims 1-16. If any issues remain which would prevent issuance of this application, the Examiner is urged to contact the undersigned prior to issuing a subsequent action. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to

¹⁰ Baecker reference, Column 6, Lines 41-67 and Column 7, Lines 1-29

charge any additional amount required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No.19-2112.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott Strohm". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Scott B. Strohm
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